United Nations A/72/708–S/2018/48

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
22 January 2018

Original: English

General Assembly
Seventy-second session
Agenda item 72 (c)
Promotion and protection of human rights: human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives

Security Council
Seventy-third year

Letter dated 16 January 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine of 16 January 2018 regarding the illegal transfer of Ukrainian citizens from the temporarily occupied territory of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea to the Russian Federation (see annex).

I would appreciate your kind assistance in having the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 72 (c), and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Volodymyr **Yelchenko**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

18-00975 (E) 250118

Please recycle

Annex to the letter dated 16 January 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine on the illegal transfer of Ukrainian citizens from the temporarily occupied territory of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea to the Russian Federation

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine expresses its strong protest against the illegal transfer to the Russian Federation of the citizens of Ukraine Muslim Aliev, Emir-Usein Kuku, Vadym Siruk, Enver Bekirov, Refat Alimov and Arsen Dzhepparov detained on the territory of the temporarily occupied Autonomous Republic of Crimea under trumped-up charges in terrorist activities.

In accordance with the norms of international humanitarian law the occupying power is forbidden from forceful transfer of citizens of the occupied state to the territory of the occupying power. The commission by the state-occupant of such unlawful actions entails its international legal responsibility.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine demands from the Russian side to stop the practice of illegal transfer of Ukrainian citizens from the temporarily occupied territory of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol to the Russian Federation and immediately return them to the territory of Ukraine.